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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia
SUBJECT Ibar Coal Mine

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1. The Ibar coal mine is located in the valley of the Ibar River approximately six kilometers east of the Usce railroad station. The surrounding area is hilly and sparsely wooded.
2. The mine has a road connection with the Usce railroad station through which the entire output and supplies for the mine are transported. The railroad station is situated approximately 1.5 kilometers east of the town of Usce, and lies on the Skoplje-Rankovicevo single track standard European gauge railroad line. The line, constructed in 1930, runs from Skoplje along the eastern bank of the Ibar River to a point approximately 15 kilometers north of the town of Usce; from there it bears gradually eastward in practically a straight line to Rankovicevo, its northern terminus.
3. The mine is administered by its own directorate, situated at the mine, which is directly subordinate to the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of Serbia in Belgrade.
4. The annual planned production figures for the past two years were as follows:

1949 - 85,000 tons
1950 - 120,000 tons

The total 1949 output amounted to 104,000 tons. The entire production is partly utilized by various industrial plants in Skoplje and partly by the car factory in Rankovicevo.
5. The total reserves of coal are estimated by the authorities at 1,200,000 tons. The ash content varies between 18 and 20 percent.
6. The main factors limiting the output are frequent fires caused by careless exploitation and shortage of labor.
7. Developments:

- a. Since the end of 1948 the mine has been gradually reequipped with new machinery including loading machines and compressors.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- b. New houses for workers are continually under construction.
 - c. New mine workings were opened by a cross-cut 800 meters long in the area of Kovacica. Mining in this working was to start by the end of 1950.
8. Machinery and equipment:
- a. The mine
 - 1) Bickhof loading machines, each of approximately 30 cubic meters per hour capacity.
 - 2) A number of boring machines, pneumatic picks, centrifugal pumps, crabs and compressors, all powered by electric motors at 380 volts. Most of the mining, however, is done by hand.
 - b. Workshops - The workshops are composed as follows:
 - Two turning lathes
 - Milling machines
 - A planing machine
 - Punching machine
 - Electrical and oxy-acetylene welding equipment
 - Smithy
 - Joiners' shop
 - A small electrical workshop
 - c. The plant is equipped with primitive sieves and grates, and has one bunker of unknown capacity.
 - d. The mine owns six or seven trucks of Skoda, Praga and Fiat manufacture.
 - e. The mine has its own power plant.
9. The total number of employees in the mine is approximately 1,640 which includes about 200 forced laborers. Work is done in three 8-hour shifts per day, 28 days per month. Owing to the shortage of accommodation, living conditions at the mine are below average. The mine is guarded by a detachment of the National Militia, who also patrol the surrounding area.
10. Bruno Panic, chief engineer of the mines - [REDACTED]

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